

Florence, New Jersey
December 6, 2006

The Florence Township Council held a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Fratinardo at 8:00 PM. President Fratinardo led the Salute to the Flag.

The following statement was read by the Township Clerk: "Notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice was published in the Burlington County Times on January 8, 2006; given to the Register News for information. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board."

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

John Fratinardo, President
Bruce Garganio
Elizabeth Ryan
Jerry Sandusky

Also present:

Mayor Michael Muchowski; Richard Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Municipal Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

MINUTES

Sandusky made a MOTION; seconded by Ryan to approve the following minutes. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

Regular Session	October 18, 2006 and November 1, 2006
Executive Session	October 11, 2006 and November 8, 2006
Closed Session	October 11, 2006; October 18, 2006; November 1, 2006 and November 8, 2006

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Ryan; seconded by Garganio to receive and file the Chief of Police's report and the Township Clerk's report for November. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

Ryan made a MOTION; seconded by Garganio to approve the Treasurer's Bill List. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing at this time.

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APPLICATIONS

- A. BINGO: Holy Assumption Church, January – June 2007, Mondays 7:15PM – 10:30PM
- B. SOCIAL AFFAIR PERMIT: Fire Company #1, February 24, 2007, 5:00PM - Midnight

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Sandusky to approve the above applications:

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo
NOES: None
ABSENT: Baldorossi

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joan Young, 1014 W. Front Street, thanked Mayor Muchowski and Council for having repairs done to the alley behind her home. She asked that more dirt and stone be put down if there is a bad winter. Mayor Muchowski stated that the alley will be monitored on an ongoing basis. Ms. Young expressed her appreciation.

Ms. Young stated a neighbor on her block had a tree cut down and the parts of the tree are still in the alley. She voiced her concern over another resident on the block that has garbage all over.

Ms. Young stated that the Public Works Department did a beautiful job picking up the leaves in front of her home today. She asked what she should do with the leaves she rakes up from this point on? Administrator Brook stated that she can bag them, call the township and the Public Works department will pick them up.

Ms. Young reported that the patch at the end of Richardson Street is breaking up and is accumulating water. She requested that it be repaired. Administrator Brook stated it will be cold patched for now and permanently repaired in the spring.

Mayor Muchowski thanked Ms. Young for attending the meeting and bringing items of concern to the township's attention.

Don Kaminski, 10 Mc Cay Drive, attended Council's November 1st meeting and discussed the parking situation on the corner of Delaware Avenue and Station Road by Bob's Corner Deli. He also provided pictures of vehicles wider than 7' that are parked in an area that has been marked 7' from the corner. This creates a hazardous area. He added that area is a bus stop for the school children. He asked if anything has been done in response to his suggestion to put up two (2) signs that state "No Parking for Vehicles Wider than Seven Feet" ? Mayor

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Muchowski is planning to work with the County on a solution in the near future. He does not believe something will be accomplished by January. Mr. Kaminski will check back in February.

Mr. Kaminski stated that it is a dangerous area for a school bus stop. Council Member Sandusky suggested that Mr. Kaminski attend a School Board Meeting to express his concern. He believes it may help Council's position.

Mr. Kaminski stated that the calendar on the township's website is not up to date with the Council Meeting dates. Assistant Administrator Sahol will look into.

All residents having an opportunity to be heard, MOTION by Sandusky; seconded by Ryan to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2007 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The Public Hearing for the 2007 CDBG Project was advertised in the Burlington County Times on November 22, 2006.

Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that the 2007 Community Development Block Grant application is for handicapped accessibility improvements to the two (2) restroom facilities in the library as well as multiple locations within the community for sidewalk ramps accessibility. The total estimate for the projects is \$102,000; the municipality is set to receive approximately \$85,000 from Community Development Block Grant funds.

Council President Fratinardo opened the hearing to the public.

Rita Carnival, 25 Laurel Avenue, member of the Florence Township Library Board, thanked Mayor and Council for looking into redoing the restrooms at the library and making them handicapped accessible with the Community Development Block Grant. Mayor Muchowski and Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, explained for the restrooms to become handicapped compliant there will have to be some minor demolition. There are very specific measurement requirements to adhere to. Mr. Guzzi stated that it can be done but the janitor's closet will be lost. Due to the MSA building right next-door, Council Member Ryan feels this is the right project. The residents of the MSA building should be able to utilize the restrooms in the library.

All residents having an opportunity to be heard, MOTION by Ryan; seconded by Sandusky to close the public hearing. All ayes - motion carried.

Assistant Administrator Sahol gave an overview of the timetable for the project. He explained that over the summer and into the fall of 2007 there will be final completion of plans and specifications. The project will then go out to bid and the work will commence in February 2008. The late date of starting work is due to the procedure that must be followed: the application goes to the County, then to the State, then to HUD. Once it comes out of HUD there is a blackout period of 45 to 60 days where there is a no comment. Mr. Guzzi stated that official approval is not usually received until August.

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Council Member Garganio asked if the work could begin now on the library restrooms and reimburse the township when the grant comes through. Assistant Administrator Sahol stated that work cannot be bid until the grant comes through. Plans and specifications can be prepared in advance so they will be ready to go out to bid as soon as the grant agreement is signed. Mr. Guzzi will be prepared to go out to bid when the grant is received.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-204

**APPROVE TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION FOR
HAINES CENTER, ROUTE 130 SOUTH
FLORENCE, NEW JERSEY
270 DANIELS WAY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-205

**AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION**

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-206

**AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SALE OF TOWNSHIP
OWNED PROPERTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-207

**RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE PROPOSED TRI-COUNTY
WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT (WQM) PLAN AMENDMENT ENTITLED:
FLORENCE TOWNSHIP WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Sandusky that Resolutions 2006-204 through 2006-207 be approved.

On the Question

Council Member Garganio asked if the auction could be scheduled for a Saturday? He believes that more people would be able to attend. He would like all auctions scheduled on a Saturday. Council in agreement to schedule all auctions on a Saturday including Resolution No. 2006-206.

Council Member Garganio would like a discussion on Tax Abatement on the Agenda for the January 2007 Worksession Meeting.

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Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-208

**AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT WITH
VIRTUA HEALTH, INC.
TRANSPORT AGREEMENT
10-15-06 to 10-14-07**

Council President Fratinardo requested that Assistant Administrator Sahol explain Resolution No. 2006-208. Assistant Administrator Sahol explained that this Resolution authorizes the signing of a one-year contract with Virtua Health, Inc., who provides advance life support services in Florence Township. It allows Virtua Health, Inc. to bill Medicare/Medicaid on the township's behalf and forward the municipality's portion of the billing receipts based on the services that were provided by Florence Township and Virtua Health, Inc. when someone is in need of medical services.

Council Member Ryan stated that she will be abstaining because Virtua is a member of the organization she is affiliated with during her day job.

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Garganio to approve Resolution No. 2006-208.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

ABSTAIN: Ryan

Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2006-27
(2nd Reading)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE ADOPTING WATER AND
SEWER REGULATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR A PROCEDURE FOR
AMENDMENTS THERETO**

It was on the MOTION of Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to approve Ordinance No. 2006-27 on second reading for adoption.

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Public Comment

Council President Fratinardo opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

No public comment.

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Sandusky to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2006-28
(2nd Reading)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE PROVIDING THAT THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MAY PERMIT TIME PAYMENTS FOR AMOUNTS DUE TO THE TOWNSHIP UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 87 ARTICLE V OF THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP CODE “REQUIRED GROWTH SHARE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATION.”

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to approve Ordinance No. 2006-28 on second reading for adoption.

Public Comment

Council President Fratinardo opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

No public comment.

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Garganio to close the public hearing. All ayes – motion carried.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2006-29
(1st Reading)**

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW WATER WELL IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$475,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Garganio to approve Ordinance No. 2006-29 on first reading and set adoption for December 20, 2006.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Baldorossi

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Nothing at this time.

Mayor Muchowski

- Mayor Muchowski enjoyed the Roebling Tree Lighting last Thursday and Florence Township's Tree Lighting this past weekend. Both events were a success and many children visited with Santa Claus.
- Mayor Muchowski reported that the Florence Township High School Football Team participated and won their fourth consecutive Central Jersey Group I Championship Game.
- Mayor Muchowski wished everyone a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

Administrator

- Nothing at this time.

Assistant Administrator

- Nothing at this time.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, reported that the township received a \$130,000 **Road Program Grant**. He stated that discussion could begin at next week's Worksession.

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- Mr. Guzzi stated that he and Assistant Administrator Sahol have gone through and selected the sidewalks to be included in the Safe Streets to Schools Grant Application. There is a bit of a rush and asked that it be put on the Agenda for next week.
- Council President Fratinardo stated that the streets are being paved in the Greenbrier Development and he witnessed the contractor using the fire hydrant to fill up their machines. He advised David Lebak, Water and Sewer Superintendent. He asked if Mr. Guzzi's inspectors see that, to please say something. Administrator Brook stated that the police should be called and the contractor cited.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council Member Ryan stated that the backups on Route 130 in the morning are very bad and asked the status of the construction? Assistant Administrator Sahol stated he was advised that construction would be complete by the end of the year.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Muchowski spoke with Mr. Lebak and they discussed the work PSE&G has been doing in the community. They have been doing a lot of work that involves digging up the roads and leaving marginal patches. Mr. Lebak has some concerns with the work they have been doing. Mayor Muchowski would like to meet with PSE&G to discuss the townships concerns.

Council Member Garganio stated that the township has picked up a lot of property in the last few years without enlarging the manpower for the Public Works Department. He has noticed trash left at some of the recreation fields and was wondering about setting up a program a couple times throughout the year where residents, possibly senior citizens, go through and pickup the trash for a small salary. It is difficult for the Public Works Department to keep up on it with all they have to do. Administrator Brook will speak with Rich Pendle, Public Works Superintendent.

Council Member Ryan stated that there is unsightly debris around the creek at the entrance to Roebling. Administrator Brook will ask Mr. Pendle to take care of it.

Council Member Sandusky had the opportunity met with some Florence Tollgate Board Members. As they were talking, Council Member Sandusky mentioned that he drives past Tollgate's swimming pool on numerous occasions during the summertime and does not see anyone in it. He stated that he would like to see a **Red Cross Swimming Program** there to give the youth in the community the opportunity to learn to swim. A week or so later one of the Board Members called Council Member Sandusky and asked if he was serious? He stated that he was but would have to discuss with Mayor Muchowski and Council. Council Member Sandusky believes that Florence Tollgate would like to receive some compensation for the use of the facility. Mayor Muchowski would like the idea researched. Assistant Administrator Sahol will work with David Dennison, Recreation Director, and report back after the New Year.

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Council Member Garganio asked if **Griffin Pipe's Well** was on the corner of the township's property along the Turnpike? He asked because one day he went by and there were seven (7) trucks and a crane. He went back a couple of days later and it looked like they pulled a sleeve out of the ground. He asked if there were any regulations for the work it is in the township's well field? Mayor Muchowski has also seen what looks like stormwater management work onsite at Griffin Pipe. Administrator Brook will have David Lebak, Water and Sewer Superintendent, and Mr. Guzzi go out and meet with Griffin Pipe.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mayor Muchowski discussed the letter from Carolyn Scully, Deputy Chief – EMS Supervisor, to Police Chief Gordon Dawson **commending** the cooperative efforts of the **Police Department and the Emergency Squad** during a recent medical emergency call. He feels that an acknowledgement should be done so they know that Mayor and Council are aware of their continued cooperation and professionalism that is being exhibited between the EMS and Police Department in the community.

8:45 PM MOTION by Garganio, seconded by Sandusky to adjourn to Closed Session. Action may follow Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

8:45 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER
Township Clerk

/mab

Note: No action taken following Closed Session.